

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, non-elected claims 3, 4, 21-28, 31, 37, 38, 44-46, and 51-53 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 19, 20, 29, 30, 32-36, 39-43, 47-50, 54 and 55 are pending and under consideration.

I. Election of Claims Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.142

Applicants elect Species i without traverse. It is believed that claims 1, 2, 5-8, 19, 20, 29, 30, 32-36, 39-43, 47-50, 54 and 55 are at least generic to or included in the embodiment of the invention shown in FIG. 8.

III. Conclusion


If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Response, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI, LLP

Date: DEC. 28, 2006

By:


James G. McEwen
Registration No. 41,983

1400 Eye St., NW., Ste 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 216-9505
Facsimile: (202) 216-9510